Hanford Site celebrates 60 years of protecting America



Decorating a hero at Hanford

At the Hanford Engineer Works in June 1944, truck driver Clair Arrowwood received a Silver Star for gallantry in action 19 months earlier on Guadalcanal. Arrowwood was an infantry private when his unit attacked an enemy ammunition train. "Disregarding his own safety," the commendation read, "Private Arrowwood picked up an enemy hand grenade and tossed it back into their lines, causing considerable damage." The citation went on to say that Arrowwood's squad leader was wounded and Arrowwood led the squad as the battle continued.

It was 60 years ago last month that Hanford broke ground for the first Hanford facilities that would be instrumental in bringing World War II to an end. Today, Hanford employees are making history again by participating in the world's largest environmental-cleanup effort.

Photo from the Sage Sentinel, June 16, 1944, provided by the East Benton County Historical Museum, 205 Keewaydin Drive, Kennewick.